

N-SHAPED BACKFLOW PREVENTOR

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A backflow preventor with increased performance, and increased ease of installation is provided. The check valves are configured to assist in redirecting flow along the desired pathway, when they are in the open position. The pathway is designed so that the number of changes of flow direction of the average streamline flow is reduced, preferably being about 180°. The check valves are configured to reduce or eliminate divergent flow around the edges of the valve disks. A check valve with a reduced hold-open pressure includes a biasing device, such as a spring, directly connected to a pivoting clapper at one end and to the valve body at the other end. No intervening pivoting links are used between the spring and the clapper. Preferably, the clapper is connected only by being pivoted to the valve body and by the spring connecting it to the valve body.